



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Derryl Acosta (858) 688-9163 (cell)  
(858) 514-3211 (office)

## **COUNTY PROBATION HIGHLIGHTS LATEST IN DETENTION TECHNOLOGY** *Public Invited to Tour County's Newest Detention Facility*

The East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility will host its third annual open house from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1. The facility, which opened in June of 2004, is located at 446 Alta Road in East Otay Mesa near Donovan State Prison.

The public will get to witness firsthand how a modern, juvenile detention facility functions. The high-tech computer system and closed-circuit video cameras allow probation officers and staff to monitor the entire facility in one central location. All doors may be opened and closed with the push of a button from the main control room, eliminating the need for keys and reducing the opportunities for escape. Even toilets and showers can be controlled remotely.

"The open house allows us to educate the community about how we work with juvenile offenders," said Deputy Chief Probation Officer Ann Sasaki-Madigan. "Probation officers are not here to punish kids. We focus on rehabilitation. We provide them with new opportunities to find success in school, the workplace and the community."

In addition to the tour, more than 30 booths will be set up outside with information about prevention, intervention, and treatment programs available to youths, adults and families.

The detention facility contains a full array of services, including medical, mental health and dental services. The facility's staff works in conjunction with the Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility to house juvenile offenders awaiting long-term placement in treatment programs, 24-hour schools, the Department of Juvenile Justice or re-entry into the community.

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